

REFLECTIONS ON THE SOVIET SUPERSONIC AIRLINER TU 144

P. Bork

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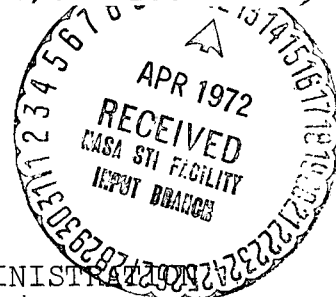
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# REFLECTIONS ON THE SOVIET SUPERSONIC AIRLINER Tu 144

P. Bork

ABSTRACT. The problems encountered during the design of the Tu 144 are considered. The cruising speed was limited to a range from 2300 to 2500 km/hr in order to avoid the great expenses inherent in the development of an aircraft based entirely on titanium alloys. The selection of the jet engine type is discussed together with the aerodynamic characteristics, stabilization and control, the aerodynamic design of the propulsion system, the wing structure, the landing gear, and the operation of the aircraft.

## 1. Design Problems of the Tu-144

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The building of a supersonic transport aircraft represents true pioneering work. It is well known in specialists circles that many of the problems associated with the production of a transport aircraft did not have to be solved in military aviation. Therefore no defensive aircraft presently exists which could compete with the Tu-144 in range or uninterrupted operation at supersonic speed.

The design work for the Tu-144 started in 1963 and was transferred to a working group under the direction of Professor

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\* Numbers in the margin indicate the pagination in the original foreign text.

A. A. Tupolev, the son of the well known engineer and member of the Academy A. N. Tupolev. At this time, it had already been established that the cruising speed of the aircraft would be above Mach 2. Profitable operation is not possible under this limit and it is not possible to obtain a range above 4200 km. Over 50% of all t-km performance is done with ranges between 4000 and 6500 kilometers in commercial aviation. The upper limit of range for supersonic aircraft is therefore 6800 kilometers at the present time.

The aerodynamic heating of the aircraft surface represents 398 another criterion. Conventional aluminum alloys can be used up to Mach 2.2 - 2.4, and certain parts of the aircraft must already be made of titanium alloys. The temperature of the aircraft surface is 120 - 150°C in this case (see Figure 2). If titanium alloys are used after Mach 2.4 (because of the high specific strength at temperatures up to 320°C), it turns out that a velocity below Mach 3 again becomes inappropriate. The fabrication of an entire aircraft out of titanium alloys is a completely new problem for manufacturing technology and will increase the manufacturing costs drastically. In addition to estimating the development time and development costs, the cruising velocity was established on the basis of a very simple argument. For a range of 6500 kilometers, a Mach 2.2 aircraft saves 4.5 hours compared with conventional aircraft. For a Mach 3.0 aircraft, this savings is only 50 minutes more (see Figure 3). This small savings must be paid for with three times the development and manufacturing costs. Even though a Mach 3 aircraft will undoubtedly be built, it is a good idea to pay for part of its development costs using the experience gained with a Mach 2.2 aircraft. This is why AEROFLOT as well as the aircraft industry of the Soviet Union decided on a cruising velocity

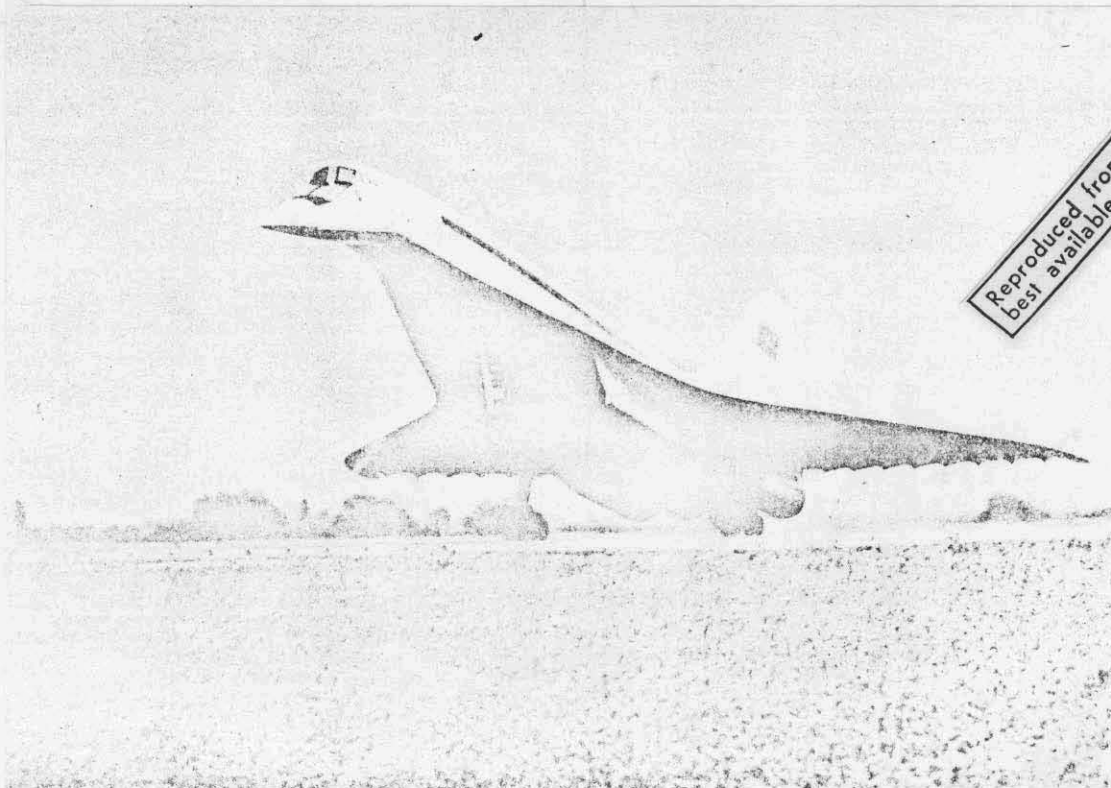


Figure 1. Tu-144 during takeoff at the central airport Berlin-Schonefeld.

(Photograph: Willman)

between 2300 and 2500 km/h for the Tu-144. (Approximately Mach 2.2).

The cruising altitude was initially determined so that the efficiency of the engines would be as great as possible, so that the ascent and descent times represented a justifiable fraction of the travel time and so that the acoustic pressure of the compression shock would not exceed a justifiable intensity level on the Earth's surface ( $7.5 - 9.2 \text{ kp/m}^2$ ). At the same time, dangerous flight altitudes due to high energy radiation and possible accumulation of ozone would have to be avoided. The Tu-144 will fly at altitudes between 17 and 21 kilometers in the future. These flight altitudes have already been sufficiently researched and are well known. They also have the advantage that

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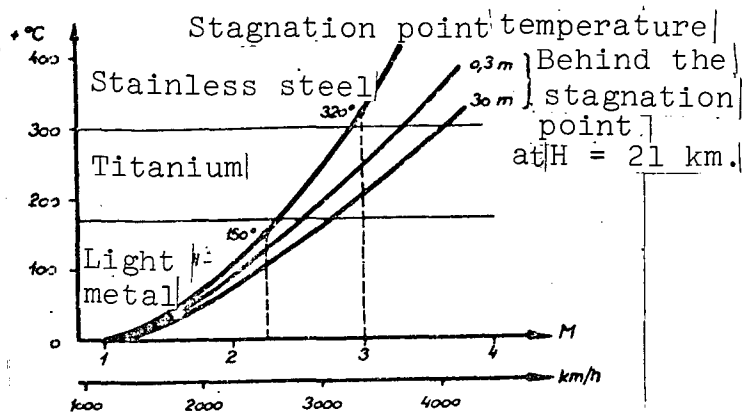


Figure 2. Temperature conditions during high speed flight.

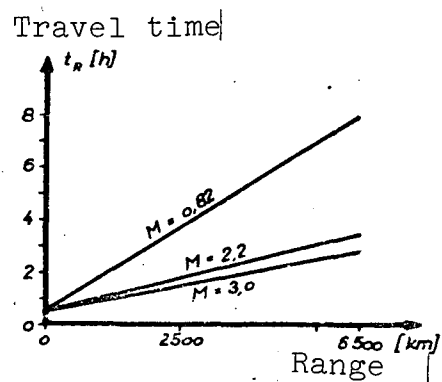


Figure 3. Dependents of the travel time on half-length and velocity for cruising flight.

navigation along the shortest distance between two points on the Earth's surface is not restricted to narrow flightpaths.

The selection of the engines was preceded by numerous investigations of the efficiencies of modern engines. Ducted-fan engines, turbo jet engines and turbo jet engines with afterburners are possible candidates. In contrast to conventional aircraft, the SST aircraft must produce maximum thrust during takeoff as well as during other flight regimes. Investigations showed that there is no single engine which could be used in the entire velocity range of the supersonic aircraft (see Figure 4). The ducted-fan jet engine has not yet been sufficiently investigated in the supersonic range, and is also less efficient than the turbo jet engine with afterburner (TLF) in the supersonic range. In addition, it has a considerably higher frontal resistance. The turbo jet engine with afterburners has very large thrust reserves in ascending flight and during the transition phase, where it is flown with the full afterburner. During cruise, the afterburner is throttled down to 30 - 40% of its performance. Of course the specific fuel consumption increases as the velocity is increased (an increase of 45% from Mach 0.8 to Mach 2.2). But the thrust increase brought about by a

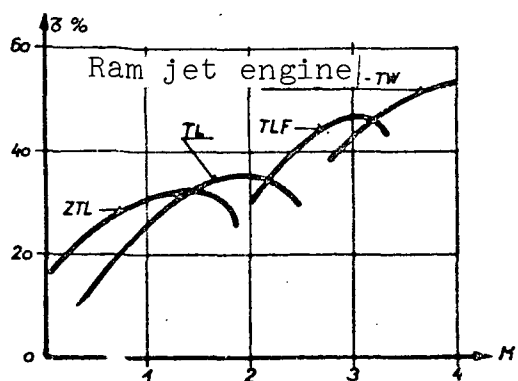


Figure 4. Efficiency of various engine types as a function of velocity.  
 ZTL: Ducted-and turbo jet  
 TL: turbo jet  
 TLF: Turbo jet with after burner.

velocity increase is considerably higher, so that overall the efficiency of the engine improves as velocity is increased. All of these factors and the experience over many years with the engine of the Tu-144 in defensive military aircraft led the designers to select a turbo jet engine with afterburners for the Tu-144. It is a three shaft engine with a six cascade afterburner and an initial thrust of 17.5 Mt.

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## 2. Particular Aerodynamic Features of Supersonic Aircraft.

The particular external form of the Tu-144 as compared with conventional jet aircraft can be explained on the basis of efficiency, and not on the basis of aesthetic sensitivity of the designers. An aircraft shape must be found which has the highest possible lift and the smallest possible drag. The following types of aerodynamic resistance determined the external shape of the supersonic aircraft:

a) Wave drag comes about due to compression shocks of the air stream at all parts of the aircraft which protrude into the flow as well as along the lifting surfaces and at the air intakes. The production of the compression shocks is an immediate consequence of the supersonic velocity of the aircraft and is associated with considerable energy loss. In order to reduce the wave drag, the following measures are employed:

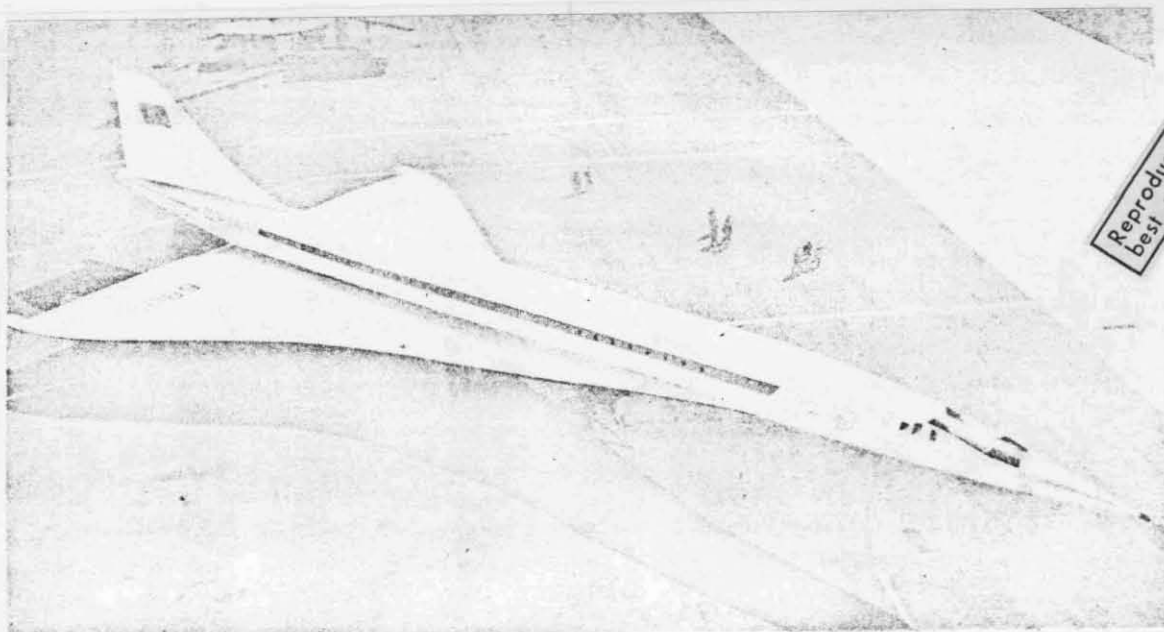


Figure 5. Supersonic transport aircraft Tu-144 (Photograph: Noppens).

The lifting surface leading edge is swept back considerably ( $56-78^\circ$  in the case of the Tu-144); the wing thickness is 2.5 - 3.5% of the profile depth (this amounts to 0.6 m at the height of the main landing gear wheels in the case of the Tu-144) and is therefore considerably lower than in conventional aircraft;

The ratio of the fuselage diameter to the free fuselage forebody  $\frac{L_0}{D}$  (see Figure 6) must be at least 6.0 (Tu-144: prototype  $\approx 4.8$ ; series production aircraft  $\approx 6.2$ );

The ratio of the fuselage diameter  $D$  to the span  $b$  should not amount to more than 0.15 (Tu-144  $\approx 0.13$ );

The angle range of the wing  $\omega$  (see Figure 6) should be smaller or equal to the aperture angle of Mach:  $d$  at maximum velocity (Tu-144:  $\omega \approx 16^\circ$ ,  $\alpha \approx 25^\circ$ );

Also the wing aperture angle  $\gamma$  (see Figure 6) should be smaller or equal to  $\alpha$  (Tu-144:  $\gamma \approx 21^\circ$ ).

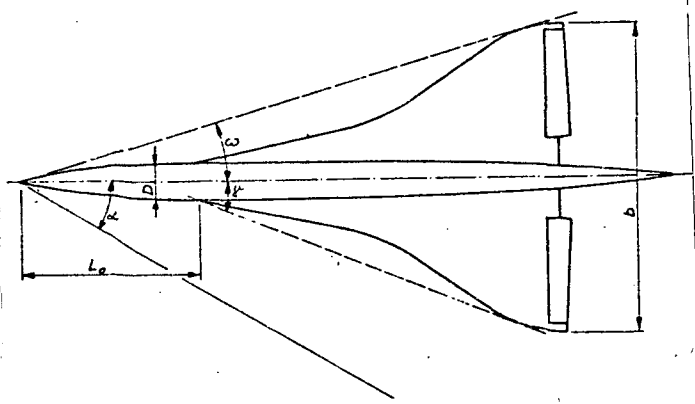


Figure 6. Explanation of the aircraft configuration.

b) The friction drag is brought about by friction of the aerodynamic stream at the aircraft surface. The rivets and skin discontinuities must be perfectly machined in the case of a supersonic aircraft. In this regard, the Tu-144 represents an excellent piece of work

of the soviet aircraft builders. The fuselage is very long but does not have a laminar shape. Instead, the diameter is reduced towards the tail. This shape means that the area rule is observed. The area rule says that supersonic aircraft must have a cross section so that its projection on the aircraft longitudinal axis is favorable for the flow. In order to induce the friction drag of the lower side of the fuselage, there is a boundary layer barrier above the air intake opening. This brings about an acceleration of the flow adjacent and below the fuselage, which causes a reduction in the wave drag. In regions where the sweepback of the main wing is low, there is a very sharp profile leading edge, which has the overall affect of reducing the profile drag considerably. /401

c) The induced drag is brought about by pressure equalization between the lower and upper surfaces of the wing. It develops in the form of an edge vortex along the entire outer edge of the wing, especially in the outer region. Figure 7 shows a flat delta wing, for which there is a continuous increase in the pressure distribution between the upper and lower sides along the

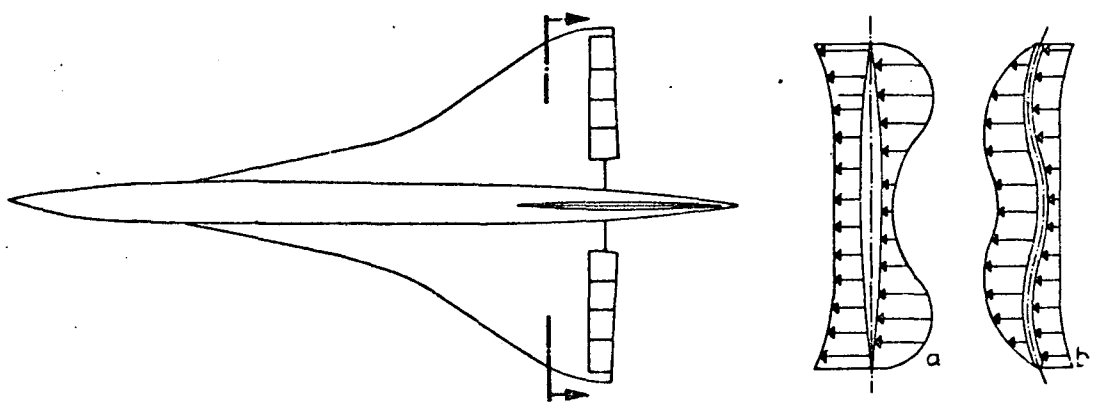


Figure 7. Influence of the cross wind on the lift distribution of the delta wing.

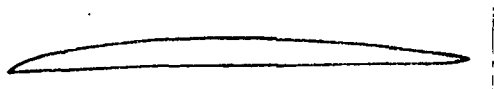


Figure 8. Special wing shape of the Tu-144 and almost flat profile lower side and approximately symmetrically curved upper side.

outer edge. The edge vortex and therefore the induced drag are especially large there. The rounded delta wing, on the other hand, which has a rounded edge (see Figure 7 b) reduces this pressure difference considerably. This is why the Tu-144 has a highly curved intermediate wing section which is very thick at the tip.

The intermediate wing section is almost completely in the subsonic region and prevents the separation of strong edge vortices in the central region of the wing. At the same time, it stabilizes the wing flow and increases the aerodynamic quality of the wing.

d) The balance drag is caused by the required rudder deflection. The Tu-144 was designed so that the balance drag would be as small as possible during cruise conditions. A wing

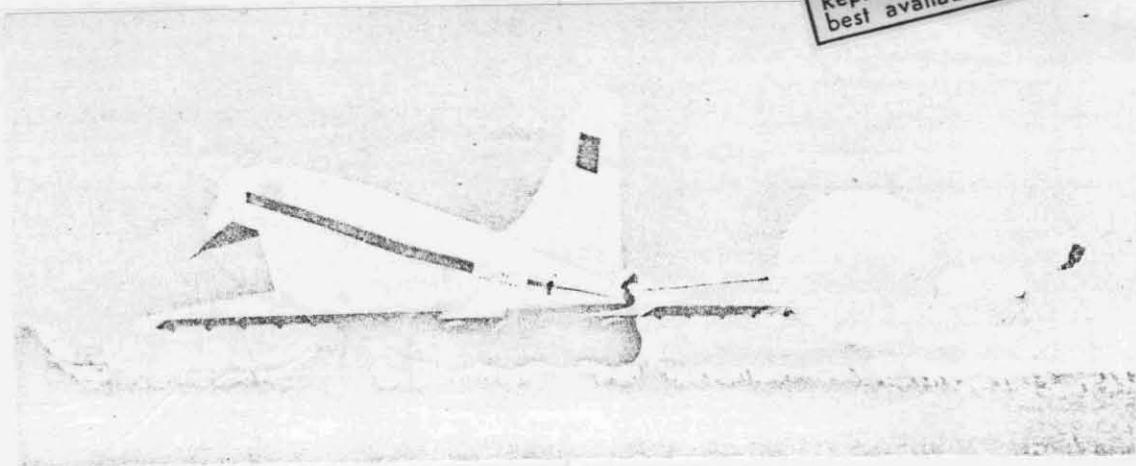


Figure 9. Tu-144 during landing with  
braking parachutes (photograph:  
Willmann)

shape has to be found for this purpose which would produce a sufficiently high pitching moment around the transverse axis (see Figure 8). The wing of the Tu-144 is almost completely flat along the lower side of the profile. The upper side has a curvature which is almost symmetric. This profile means that the center of gravity is far back, which reduces the deviations of a neutral point and brings about over-stabilization in the subsonic range. This profile shape is connected with a twisting of the wing, where the angle of attack decreases at the outer regions of the span. The twist and profile shape are selected in such a way that there will be an optimum angle of attack of the aircraft during cruise without any rudder deflection. In order to maximize the range, control is effected by means of a thrust vector and not by using the rudders. Depending on the atmosphere conditions, the velocity is selected so that the aerodynamic quality is optimum. This task is performed by means of a velocity control automatic system, which also simplifies flying of the airplane.

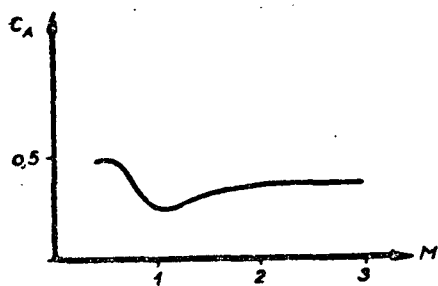


Figure 10. Dependence of the lift coefficient on the Mach number.

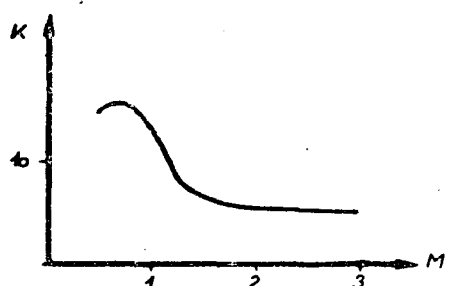


Figure 11. Dependence of the aerodynamic quality on the Mach number.

The lift coefficient as well as the aerodynamic quality\* are considerably reduced under supersonic flight conditions. One important task of the aerodynamicists is to improve the aerodynamic quality—that is, the ratio of the lift coefficient to the drag coefficient—using any available means. Figure 11 shows that there is an enormous reduction in the quality coefficient for supersonic flight conditions. At the same time, the range is considerably reduced and the fuel consumption increases. The quality factor was increased by the designers of the Tu-144 by means of the following measures: /402

1. The drag of the aircraft was reduced by any means which could be justified from a production point of view;

2. The wing was twisted in the transverse as well as in the longitudinal direction. This brought about an improvement in the quality factor as compared with conventional delta wings, as is shown in Figure 12. The improvement amounted almost to a factor of 2.

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\*Translator's note: This is the lift-to-drag ratio.

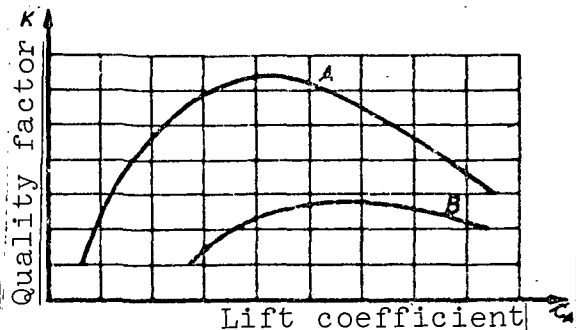


Figure 12. Influence of the lifting surface shape on the quality factor.  
A - stabilized twisted lifting surface with alternating sweep-back.  
B - stabilized flat delta wing.

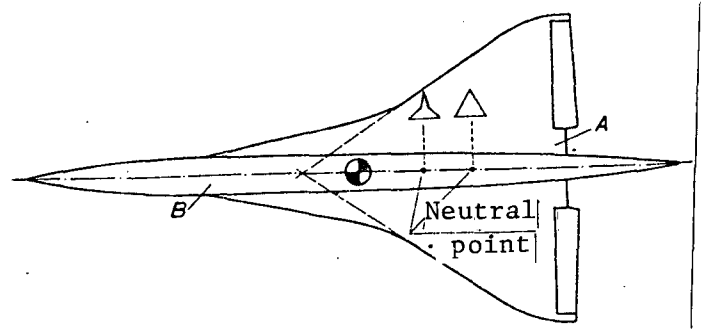


Figure 13. Displacement of the neutral point due to the wing filling section B.

3. The sweep-back of the wing of the Tu-144 changes. This contributes to an improvement in the quality factor during cruise. The very large delta surface as well as its aspect ratio  $\lambda = 2$  means that the induced drag can hardly be reduced any more. However, the lift coefficient is sufficient for a landing (angle of attack during landing is about  $14^\circ$ ).|

4. The lower side of the fuselage is included in the overall wing configuration. The fuselage generates a lift even for small angles of attack under supersonic flight conditions. |

### 3. Stabilization and Control of the Aircraft.

Not all supersonic aircraft must have the appearance of the Tu-144. However, the nature of this aircraft has been dictated by several conditions of supersonic flight. Probably the most important problem consists of the "neutral point dispersion". Aerodynamicists refer to the neutral point as the point along the profile axis for which the overall aerodynamic moment is independent of the angle of attack. If this point is displaced, |

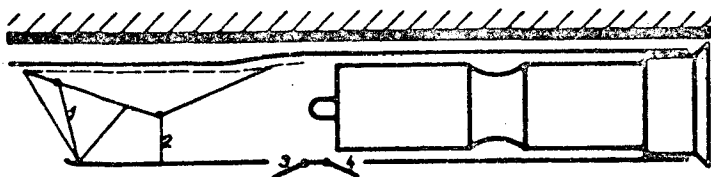


Figure 14. Principle of the air combustion chamber.  
 1 - oblique compression shock;  
 2 - normal compression shock;  
 3 - incoming flow flap;  
 4 - overflow flap.

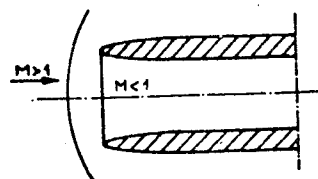


Figure 15. Simplest air intake with upstream compression shock.

then the pitch restoring moment is increased and the effect of the elevator is reduced. In order to maintain controllability, the distance between the center of gravity and the neutral point of the aircraft must be maintained inside certain limits. The center of gravity is placed close to the neutral point in order to bring this about. This reduces the neutral point displacement.

What did the designers of the Tu-144 do in regard to this problem?

a) An integral tank was installed in the rudder assembly. Fuel is pumped from the most forward fuel tanks into the tank in the rudder assembly as a cruise velocity is approached. In particular, this is done during the transition phase (flying through the velocity corresponding to Mach 1). This is the only way that the center of gravity can be displaced. Because of the selected wing shape, profile form, and configuration of the available spaces of the fuselage, the center of gravity is

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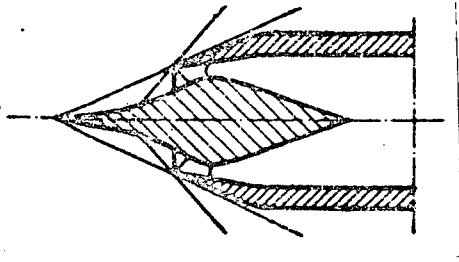


Figure 16. Air intake with central body adjustable in the longitudinal direction.

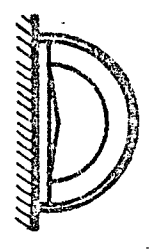


Figure 17. Semicylindrical air intake with one-half of the central body located on the side of the fuselage.

already considerably displaced towards the rear. An onboard computer installation controls the fuel consumption and the fuel displacement by giving appropriate commands to the pumps.

b) The wing shape contributes to a reduction in the neutral point displacement. Figure 13 shows that the Tu-144 has two wings which are effective in different ways. The subsonic wing consists of the main wing A with a small sweep-back. The supersonic wing is made up of the delta-shaped main wing A and the intermediate wing section B. The intermediate section has such a strong sweep-back (about  $72^\circ$ ) that it has almost no aerodynamic effect during slow subsonic flight. Since the position of the neutral point is always determined with respect to the overall effective wing, the neutral point of the area A + B is always ahead of the one for area A. Thus, the displacement of the neutral point of surface A is compensated by the new position of the neutral point of the surface A + B during supersonic flight.

c) The aerodynamic shape of the aircraft was selected so that the Tu-144 can maintain the necessary attitude during cruise without reducing stability. Depending on the reduced mass of the aircraft during flight, the distance between the center of gravity and the neutral point is selected in such a way that the aerodynamic quality is the highest. The center of gravity of the aircraft must be slightly displaced during the supersonic flight phase.

One peculiar aspect of the Tu-144 is the fact that there is no elevator on the fuselage. The rudders at the trailing edge of the wing are sufficiently far removed from the center of gravity of the aircraft in order to be effective. The rudder surfaces (4 sections on each side) are used as elevators and ailerons. Their size is determined by their normal depth with respect to the profile length and also because they must extend beyond the turbulence layer, within which they are not effective as control members, during the transition phase. This turbulence layer is brought about by boundary layer separation due to compression shocks on the upper and lower side of the wing (especially in the velocity range corresponding to Mach 1).

The stability of the aircraft during landing is greater than for conventional aircraft. Since the delta wing reaches the highest lift coefficient value at almost twice the landing angle of attack, there is no danger of flow separation. The size of the wing considerably exceeds the required area for slow flight, which means that a landing velocity of 260 km/h can be reached with an angle of attack between 12 and 14°. This velocity corresponds to that of heavy aircraft at high subsonic speeds (for example IL-62), which still however have lift increasing devices along their wings. The Tu-144 has no

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mechanical devices for increasing lift during slow flight. The landing approach is carried out at the same angle of attack as the landing itself. An air cushion develops as the ground is approached, which attenuates the vertical velocity down to 0 m/s and which produces an increased pitch moment at the same time. The pilot equalizes only this moment with the rudder and therefore maintains the angle of attack constant. There is a vertical indication device located between both pilots on the cockpit windshield. It is used to display the angle of attack, which becomes critical at  $16^\circ$  because at this angle the engine tubes touch the ground. If this critical value of the angle of attack is reached just before touchdown, the aircraft pitches down automatically and stabilizes itself by means of a greater pitching moment.

#### 4. Aerodynamic Configuration of the Engine Tract.

The performance and efficiency of an engine depends considerably on the maintenance of energy during impact ram compression. The kinetic energy of the incoming air must be transformed into a stagnation pressure increase as completely as possible during the deceleration process in the air intake. It is the purpose of the air intake to decelerate the air coming in at the flight velocity down to subsonic velocity. There exist no engines in which the energy could be added to the airstream at supersonic velocities. The engines of the Tu-144 do have a first stage in the compressor with supersonic blades. However, the engine does operate with subsonic flow. The braking of velocity can only be carried out by means of a system of several compression shocks. In principle, this could be done by means of two or three additional air intake shapes. The intake channel (Figure 15) which is usually used near subsonic speeds could also be used for supersonic speeds.

The compression shock then emerges from the intake and increases the drag up to a large and unnecessary value. Because of the losses, the aircraft could not be operated economically under these conditions. Therefore, stable operation of the engine could hardly be achieved, because the turbulent nature of the airstream would influence the inlet conditions at the compressor in an unfavorable way.

Figure 16 and 17 show air intakes with a movable central body. For example, they had been designed for the American supersonic aircraft, which has been given up in the meantime. It is not possible to produce more than one oblique shock, located at the leading edge of the air intake, over a large velocity range. These highly effective air intakes with central body (Figure 18) also require individual suspension of the engines, which is aerodynamically less favorable (Figure 19).

The air intake selected for the Tu-144 offers the best aerodynamic possibilities. The stagnation pressure increase is about a factor of ten in it and is relatively independent of the angle of attack. The engine itself requires about 1/3 of the tract length. The other two thirds are required for the formation of the diffuser, in particular for relaxation of the air after passing the smallest cross section in which the normal shock is located (see Figure 20).

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The air intake is one of the most important design problems of a supersonic aircraft. It must produce approximately 3 and one-half times the air mass in supersonic flight with low losses, while the input conditions to the compressor remain constant. It is automatically controlled by measuring the air pressure in front of the intake and at the position before and behind the normal shock. The hinge between the members II

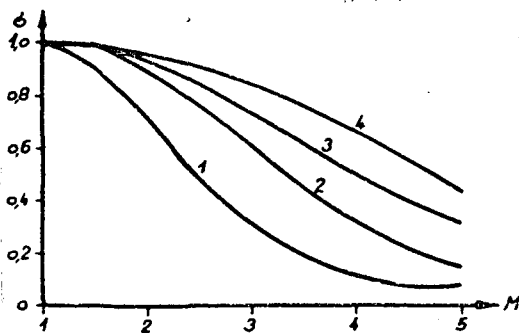


Figure 18. Dependence of the pressure recovery factor on the system of compression shocks.  
 1 - upstream normal compression shock (see Figure 15) (at  $M = 2.2$ :  $\sigma = 0.6$ )  
 2 - one oblique and one normal shock ( $\sigma = 0.85$ )  
 3 - two oblique and one normal shocks (see Figure 16) ( $\sigma = 0.93$ )  
 4 - three oblique and one normal shocks (see Figure 14, Tu-144) ( $\sigma = 0.96$ )

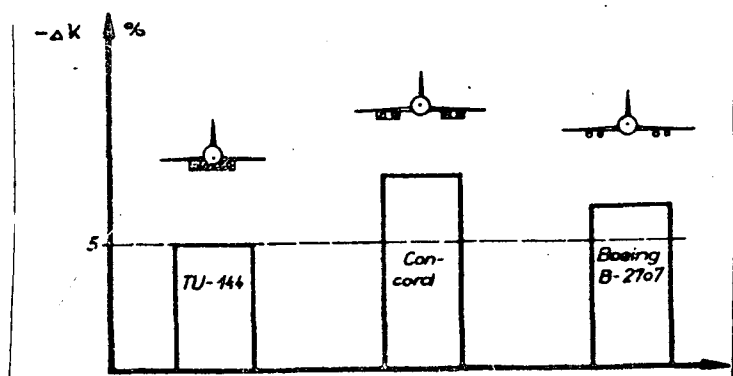


Figure 19. Loss in aerodynamic quality due to arrangement of the engines. The 2% K advantage of the Tu-144 with respect to the Concorde corresponds to a savings of 1 million marks for 30000 hours of operation.

and III of the diffuser plate (Figure 20) represents the critical cross section. The diffuser plate is extended so that the normal shock is located exactly at the hinge.

By means of an overflow flap in front of the engine, it is possible to expel the excess air mass if the normal shock remains in the same position and if the pressure in front of the engine is too high.

There is a stabilizing flap on the lower side of the air intake at the foremost point, with which it is possible to prevent possible pulsations of the flow in the diffuser during velocity changes in supersonic flight. The flap IV (Figure 20) and the intake flap are opened during takeoff and slow flight, in order to increase the effectiveness of the engine. Both flaps can be opened during supersonic flight as necessary, in order to have better control of the engine if a disturbance

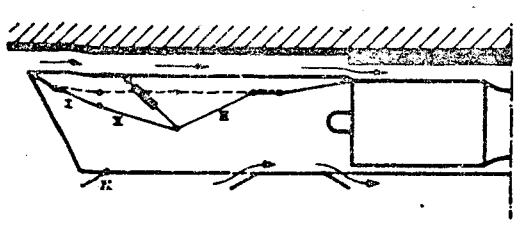


Figure 20. Air intake of the Tu-144 (schematic)

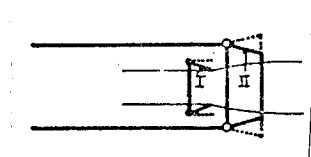


Figure 21. Thrust tube flap position for supersonic flight.  
I - flaps of the Laval nozzle.  
II - flaps of the thrust tube throttle.

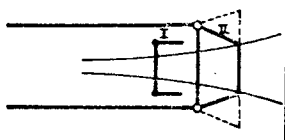


Figure 22. Thrust tube flap position for subsonic flight.

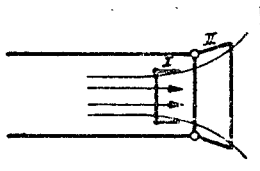


Figure 23. Thrust tube flap position with afterburner in operation.

occurs. The boundary layer below the fuselage is partly deflected to the side, and partly directed into the nacelle for ventilation.

The thrust tube is used to convert the heat energy added in the engine into kinetic energy. At the end of the thrust tube, the expansion amounts to a factor of 20 - 30. Only the smallest part of this expansion (approximately 25%) occurs in the turbine. The gases leave the turbine under high pressure (it produces the thrust), which must be expanded down to atmospheric pressure at the end of the thrust tube. During this process, 406 the velocity in the gas stream is increased to several times the speed of sound. If atmospheric pressure is not reached at the end of the thrust tube, considerable energy losses occur. These are brought about by means of

compression shocks, which theoretically can be avoided, in the thrust stream and amount to about 14% for Mach 2.2.

Figure 21 shows the double thrust tube flap system of the Tu-144. The flap ring I forms the critical Laval nozzle cross section, in which the speed of sound is reached. The flaps of the thrust tube throttling are important during subsonic flight as well as for operation of the afterburner. On the one hand, the thrust tube throttle flap makes it possible to change the thrust at the same velocity and to better match the work of compression with the work in the turbine. On the other hand, this flap ring is necessary in order to change the cross section when the afterburner is switched on. The afterburner of the Tu-144 operates during the take-off phase as well as during the cruise phase (see Figure 23).

The size of the cross section is adjusted according to the degree of expansion, that is, according to the ratio between the pressure behind the turbine and at the end of the nozzle. If it is desired to have atmospheric pressure at the end of the thrust tube because of the improved efficiency, then a definite cross section must correspond to each engine operation regime. Figure 24 shows the ratio  $F_{II} / F_I$  (see Figure 21) as a function of Mach number. Whereas the cross section I decreases as the flight velocity is increased, the cross section II must increase. The cross section is controlled automatically. By measuring only a few parameters, (pressure, velocity, temperature) the automatic control system, which is connected with a computer, can adjust to the required values for the two nozzle cross sections. The automatic control system is coupled with a velocity stabilization control system.

## 5. Description of the Construction.

Main plane structure: the main plane structure as well as the entire cell construction is made of an aluminum alloy which

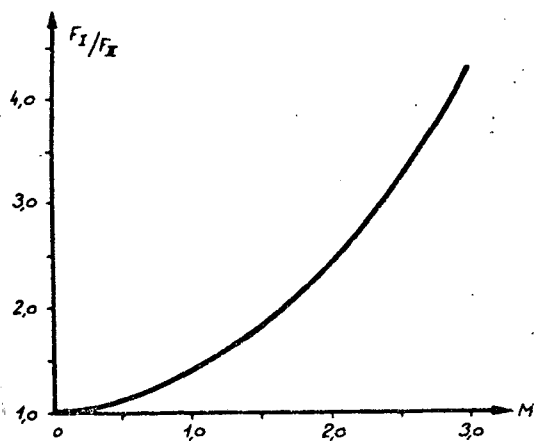


Figure 24. Cross section change in the thrust tube as a function of flight velocity.

is especially temperature resistant (see Figure 2).

The wing shape is in the form of a triangle, and is in the form of a delta wing with two angles of sweep-back with a main wing and a wing intermediate section. The main wing section has twist in the longitudinal and transverse direction. Only the main wing has a pointed profile leading edge. The intermediate wing

section has a relatively large thickness and a strongly curved profile nose. The fuel tanks are all in the form of integral containers and are distributed over the entire main wing (approximately 100,000 liters).

Fuselage: The fuselage has a cylindrical shape and is made up of two radii in the forward section. The lower part of the fuselage up to the engine intakes is almost flat. The fuselage diameter is continuous only in the central part and is reduced towards the front and rear. The pressurized part of the fuselage has a length of 40 meters and extends from the cockpit to behind the end of the thrust tube. The fuselage nose can be dropped electrically and is outside of the pressurized part. The length of the series produced aircraft is 6 meters longer than in the case of the prototype, so that now 150 instead of 120 passengers can be transported in the prototype. Only the first and second pilot together with the ejection seats were installed in the cockpit of the test aircraft 68001. The onboard engineer as well as the test flight engineer, who will not be present in the series produced aircraft, at present sit in a modified

first class lounge, that is, behind the front door. They also have ejection seats. The onboard engineer sits perpendicular to the flight direction behind the second pilot in the series produced aircraft. The length of the commercially useful fuselage section is 42 meters in the series produced aircraft, including a baggage area which is 6.7 meters long. In the series produced aircraft, the baggage area can be reached through a container opening, which the prototype already had. The fuselage has two entrance doors which open to the outside and two emergency exits on both sides of the wing.

In the nonpressurized part of the tail there is an auxiliary turbo charger unit for compressed air used for starting the engines, which is installed perpendicular to the fuselage. It is also used for cabin air-conditioning on the ground and for producing electrical energy. In addition, the prototype has braking parachutes which are located in a container in the fuselage tail.

During flight, the fuselage is air-conditioned by cooling the air in several stages. The air taken from the engines is cooled in an air-air heat exchanger using air from the intake tract. It is then cooled to approximately 120° C in a fuel-heat exchanger using fuel. Finally it is expanded in a turbo-cooler to about -40° C. This air is then directed along the fuselage surface from the upper side of the fuselage. It then enters the cabin through porous cabin walls. The temperature in the cabin can be controlled between 18-25° C. Part of the tract air is also directed into the fuselage in order to control the interior temperature. The air passes through the bottom of the fuselage, through the landing gear tracts and into the atmosphere. Even though the surrounding temperature is -60°C, the fuselage and wing surface temperatures are between +100 to

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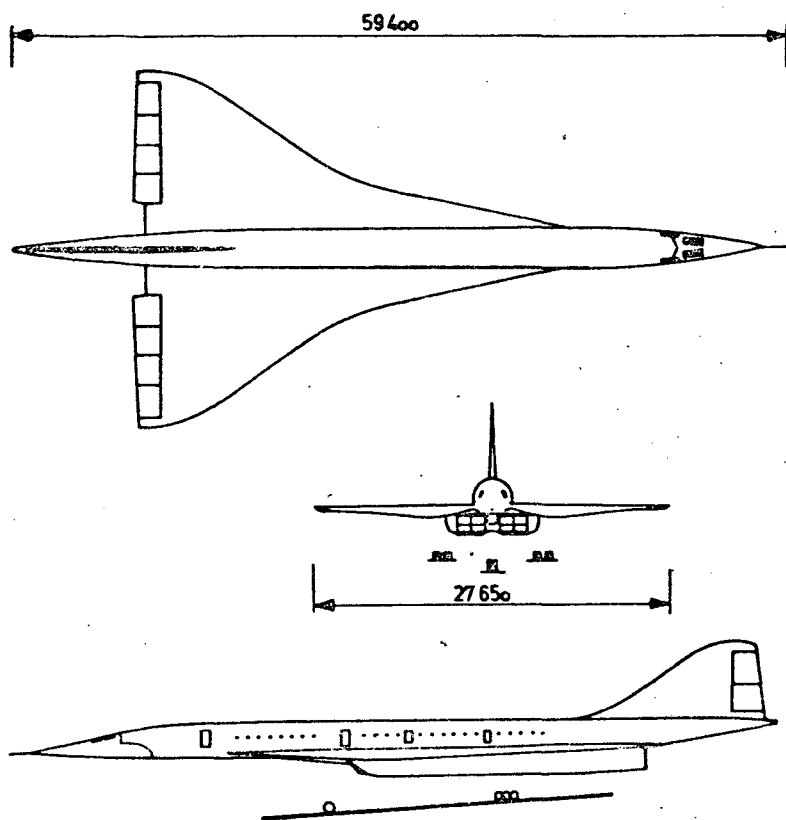


Figure 25. Three views of the Tu-144.

+120° C. Normal life could not be sustained in the cabin without the cooling from the inside of the fuselage.

**Tailplane:** The tailplane consists of side surfaces with the rudder and the elevators. The side rudder has two sections which are operated by means of two boosters<sup>(1)</sup>, which can be activated by four independent hydraulic systems. Even if only one hydraulic system operates, 50% of the boosters will still operate and can operate

the rigidly connected sections. The four sections of elevators on each side of the wing act as ailerons and elevators and are independently controlled through two command systems. The sections are also rigidly connected and are operated together during each flight phase. Two boosters operate each section, and only one is necessary for operation. Each booster is supplied

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(1) Booster-hydraulic amplifiers, which hydraulically amplify the control signals of the pilots and which are transferred to the rudders. The control does not operate in a reversible manner, which means the steering pressure must be imitated by means of a special device.

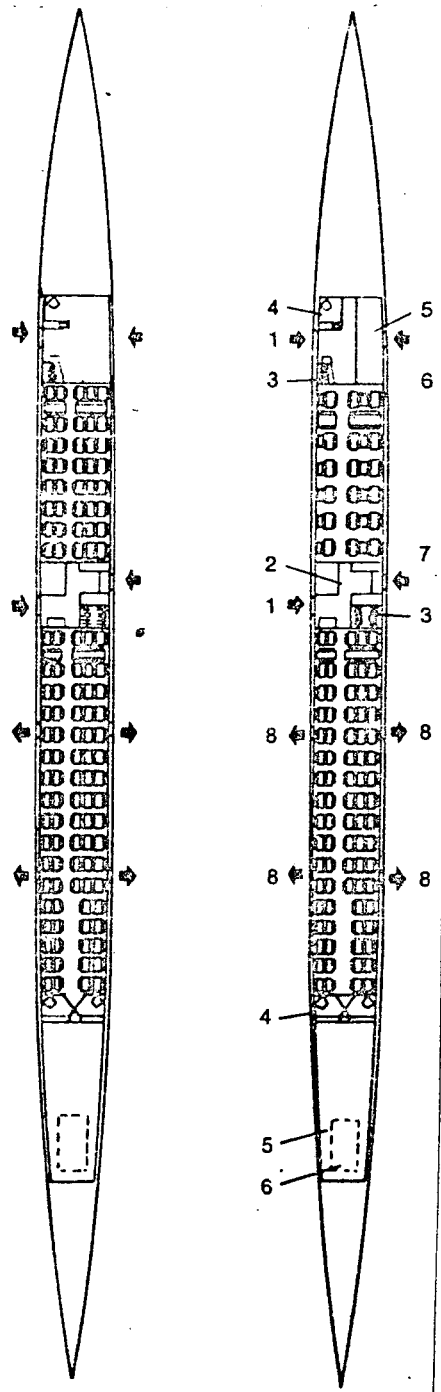


Figure 26. Cabin arrangement for tourist version with 120 seats and combined variation with 98 seats (18 first class seats and 80 tourist class seats)

by two of the four hydraulic systems. The aircraft does not have additional aerodynamic flaps, spoilers or canard wings.

Landing gear: The landing gear is of the 3 point type and had to be designed considering the fact that the relatively thin wing offers relatively little space for pulling in the wheel car bodies. This is why the relatively small diameter of the tires (about 0.8 meters) is noticeable. Each of the main landing gear assemblies have six wheels with twin tires. There is a ventilator for cooling the disc brakes in each wheel, which operates for a certain time after landing. A tire pressure of 13 at was selected because of the small size of the tires. Nitrogen is used to fill the tubeless tires. The

nose landing gear has two wheels, which can be turned in the range  $\pm 60^\circ$ . The nose landing gear is pulled into the fuselage

between the air intake tracts. The main landing gears are tipped forward into the wings. The landing gear flaps protrude somewhat out of the wing contour.

## 6. Operation and Equipment.

The fact that the crew was limited to three persons made it necessary to extensively automate the piloting of the aircraft. Even a larger crew could not solve the novel problems if the tasks were distributed in the usual way. The velocity of the aircraft means that many calculations, control functions and operations cannot be carried out manually. The first pilot is also the radio-man. The second pilot is also the navigator. The onboard engineer monitors especially the fuel system, deicing, air-conditioning, electrical power and the engines.

One of the important new features of the navigation equipment is the inertial navigator with Doppler radar correction. With the installation it is possible to preprogram seven flight path segments, to project maps with scale selection, to display the location of the aircraft and to represent the elapsed flight path in the orthogonal coordinate system. In addition, the map of a destination airport with flight approaches can be projected and can be automatically flown. The required frequencies for guiding flight paths, flight path and distance measurement to five airports can be programmed using a frequency register. The ground system used in the USSR or in any country can be selected by means of a switch.

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In addition to the autopilot used for automatic landing down to touch-down and the corresponding operational devices, there is an automatic system for velocity control with an

accuracy of  $\pm 10$  km/h. The autopilot can also be used to automatically control the thrust during descent. About 17 minutes are required to reach the 17,000 meter cruise altitude, for which a distance of 300 kilometers is required.

## 7. Other Data.

Length approximately 59.4 meters (series produced aircraft 65 meters)  
Span 27.65 meters  
Height 11.2 meters  
Fuselage length without nose 51.2 meters (Series produced aircraft 57 meters)  
Wheel separation 13.8 meters  
Wheel base 7.8 meters  
Wing surface approximately  $395 \text{ m}^2$   
Side control surface approximately  $54 \text{ m}^2$   
Fuselage height about 2.7 meters  
Fuselage width about 3.2 meters  
Door height, rear cabin 4.4 meters  
Eye level of the pilot during landing 11.6 meters  
Sweep-back of the main wing  $56^\circ$   
Cruising velocity 2300 - 2500 km/h (Mach 2.2)  
Approach velocity 290 km/h  
Landing velocity 260 km/h  
Landing roll distance 1200 m  
Takeoff rolling distance 1900 m  
SLB length (ICAO) 2800 m  
Maximum takeoff weight 170 Mp (Series produced aircraft)  
Maximum takeoff weight approximately 150 Mp (Prototype)  
Empty weight about 75 Mp (Series produced aircraft)  
Fuel load 80 Mp  
Number of passengers, Max. 150

Baggage room area about 15 m<sup>2</sup>

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